

Message Text

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DEPT PLEASE PASS ERDA AND FEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OVIP (AGER-HANSSEN, HENRIK), NO

SUBJ: VISIT OF NEW DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR OF STATOIL - REQUEST
FOR APPOINTMENTS

1. NEW DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR OF STATOIL, HENRIK AGER
HANSEN, PLAN TO BEIN WASHINGTON ON BUSINESS IN
LATTER PART OF FEBRUARY. WHILE THERE HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET
ON FEBRUARY 24 WITH ERDA ADMINISTRATOR SEAMENS (HE MET
SEAMENS INOSLO LAST SEPTEMBER), AND FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINISTRA-
TOR ZARB. EMBASSY ALSO SUGGESTS HE MEET WITH UNDER
SECRETARY ROBINSON. AGER HANSSEN ADVISES HE HAS SOME
FLEXIBILITY IN HIS PLANNING IF FEBRUARY 24 NOT CONVENIENT.

2. STATOIL WAS FOUNDED IN 1972 AND IS INTENDED TO BE LARGE
INTEGRATED OIL COMPANY. IT IS GROWING RAPIDLY, OWNS HALF
THE TWO EKOFISK PIPELINES, HALF OF STATFJORD FIELD (THE
NORTH SEA'S LARGEST) AND WILL OWN AT LEAST HALF OF ALL
FUTURE NORTH SEA CONCESSIONS. IT HAS ALSO BEEN
DESIGNATED AS CHOSEN INSTRUMENT FOR EXPLORATION AND
DEVELOPMENT NORTH OF 62ND PARALLEL AND IS MAJOR PARTNER
IN NEW REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL PROJECTS IN NORWAY.

3. AGER-HANSSEN IS 45, VERY FRIENDLY TOWARD THE U.S.,
OUTGOING, SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH, AND WAS HAND PICKED
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FOR STATOIL POSITION BE STATOIL CHAIRMAN FINN LIED. HE

WAS PROJECT LEADER FOR OECD-SPONSORED HALDEN NUCLEAR REACTOR PROJECT FROM ITS INCEPTION UNTIL 1967 WHEN HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF NEWLY CREATED INSTITUTE OF ATOMIC ENERGY. IN 1971 HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF SCANPOWER WHICH IS FUNDED BY FIVE OF NORWAY'S LARGEST INDUSTRIES (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE) AND ACTS AS "THINK TANK" AND ADVISOR TO PRIVATE INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT ON ENERGY MATTERS, ESPECIALLY NUCLEAR ENERGY. (HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED TO WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY BY NEW DIRECTOR OF SCANPOWER, GUNNAR RANDERS) HE WILL START AT STATOIL IN MARCH AND WILL SERVE AS ALTER EGO TO MANAGING DIRECTOR ARVE JOHNSEN WITH DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT OF OIL FIELDS. AS SUCH HE WILL BE IN KEY POSITION AND CAPABLE OF DIRECTING PROCUREMENT AND SELECTING COMPANIES TO COOPERATE IN STATOIL PROJECTS.

4. SINCE AGER-HANSEEN WILL PLAY KEY ROLE AT STATOIL, I HOPE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE FOR HIM TO SEE ADMINISTRATORS SEAMENS AND ZARB, AND UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON ON OR ABOUT FEBRUARY 24. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.
BYRNE

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